

62nd Session of the HRC

Item 3 – ID with SR on Violence against Women and Girls
including its causes and consequences.

Geneva, 22 June 2026

Speaker: Ms. Mariam Awdishu

Oral statement submitted by
**VIDES International – International Volunteerism Organization for
Women, Education and Development**

And co-sponsored by
IIMA – Istituto Internazionale Maria Ausiliatrice delle Salesiane di don Bosco

VIDES International and IIMA welcome the report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against mothers.¹ Despite progress in advancing women's rights, mothers continue to face many forms of violence on intersecting grounds, as well as economic insecurity. Violence against mothers affects not only women themselves, but also the well-being and development of their children. Through our work with women, girls, and vulnerable communities worldwide, we witness the urgent need to strengthen support and protection for mothers in all contexts.

Therefore, we support the Special Rapporteur's call to:

1. Extend social protection measures to mothers, especially migrant and refugee women, in the informal economy, ensuring that all mothers can live free from violence and discrimination;
2. Address systemic barriers in maternal healthcare and establish accountability mechanisms to guarantee respectful and quality care for all mothers;
3. Strengthen child support systems and adequate financial support to ensure economic security for mothers and children; and
4. Promote policies, including in the labour sector, that uphold the dignity, rights, and well-being of mothers worldwide.

Protecting mothers is essential for advancing human rights, gender equality, and inclusive societies.

Thank you.

¹ Report of the Special Representative on violence against women and girls, its causes and consequences, UN Doc. A/HRC/62/49, 27 May 2026.